

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

For more information contact:

Lindsey Miller
Carroll/White Advertising and Public Relations
<a href="mailto:lmiller@carrollwhite.com">lmiller@carrollwhite.com</a>
770.350.9800 ext. 3024 or 404.543.0371

## New System Will Allow TSA to Open Locked Bags, Ease Air Passenger Concerns about Checking Unlocked Bags

Washington – November 12, 2003 – Travel Sentry<sup>TM</sup>, an organization that provides security solutions to the travel industry, announced today a new baggage locking system that allows airline passengers to lock their bags without interfering with the Transportation Security Administration's (TSA) need to open bags for inspection.

Beginning today, the new *Travel Sentry Mertified* lock can be opened at checked baggage screening stations operated by TSA at more than 400 commercial airports in the U.S. If a checked bag locked with a new *Travel Sentry Certified* lock -- clearly identified by a *Travel Sentry Certified* mark -- needs to be opened and inspected, the screener will use a combination of codes and secured tools to unlock the lock. Following inspection, the screener will re-lock the bag and send it on its way.

"TSA is ready to work with any industry in developing practical solutions that contribute toward our goal of providing world-class security and world-class customer service," said Ken Lauterstein, Program Manager for Checked Baggage Screening Operations in TSA's Office of Aviation Operations.

Travel Sentry Certified locks were developed through cooperation between luggage, lock and travel accessory manufacturers. The Travel Sentry Certified system is the first that uniformly addresses the leave-locked-or-unlocked dilemma faced by passengers who check their bags.

"The Travel Sentry system is the direct result of the travel industry developing a solution that addresses the public's desire to lock their bags with the need of the TSA to have access to those bags for inspection," said John Vermilye, Managing Director of Travel Sentry, the organization that developed the new locking system.

Baggage and lock manufacturers that were affected by the TSA's suggestion for bags to remain unlocked are optimistic about the new system. Several manufacturers have worked quickly to make *Travel Sentry Certified* accessories available to the traveling public.

"Our company is proud to be a front-runner in the travel industry by providing peace of mind and security to today's air travelers," said John Dudash, President of Atlantic Luggage Company. "Our Professional TM collection is equipped with Travel Sentry Certified locks and Austin House stores will carry individual Travel Sentry Certified locks for existing baggage."

Travelers understand that locking their baggage only protects their belongings to a certain degree. However, Vermilye says passengers gain a certain peace of mind by being able to lock their bags.

"By locking their baggage, the majority of travelers believe their belongings are relatively safe, even though they know if someone really wants to get in, a lock won't stop them. But, overall, they believe locks are an obvious and viable deterrent to theft and pilfering."

The results of a recent on-line survey of business and leisure airline travelers support his claim.

According to the survey, almost 90 percent of the respondents leave their checked baggage unlocked due to the current TSA screening procedures. The same survey shows that 80 percent of these travelers believe that theft and pilfering by baggage handlers is greatly deterred by locking baggage. Sixty percent of these travelers locked their bags prior to 9/11, and the same percentage would do so today if it were not discouraged.

The new locks are now available for purchase at various travel goods retailers and can be used on existing baggage. Several leading baggage manufacturers are currently in production on baggage with built-in *Travel Sentry Gertified* locking devices that will soon be available for purchase as well.

"We've heard from our customers that they want to be able to lock their checked baggage when they travel, and we've responded by making the new *Travel Sentry Certified* locks available in all of our stores just in time for the busiest travel season of the year," said Michael Anthony, Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of Brookstone. "We look forward to enhancing the travel experience of our customers with a product that will once again allow them to lock their checked bags with greater confidence."

Travel Sentry is an organization that provides security solutions for the traveling public. The company recently created the *Travel Sentry Certified* lock standard that enables the traveling public to lock their baggage during travel while still allowing the TSA to search the bags as needed and then re-lock them. Travel Sentry is based in Washington, D.C. More information can be found at <a href="https://www.travelsentry.org">www.travelsentry.org</a>.

PHOTO/INTERVIEW OPPORTUNITY: Program spokespeople and product available to press at Brookstone @ Rockefeller Center. Today 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

-End-

# CCL Security Products® New Product News Release!

# **CCL Security Products introduces SearchAlert™:**

# **Luggage Security Products for TSA Inspections!**

Wheeling, Illinois, November 12, 2003—CCL Security Products®, a Division of The Eastern Company of Naugatuck, Connecticut, today introduced SearchAlert™ by Prestolock™ a new resettable combination lock, with patents pending, giving travelers the ability to lock their checked luggage at U.S. Airports without fear of having the locks cut off. The SearchAlert lock also features a Security Window that alerts travelers if their luggage locks were opened during an inspection by Transportation Security Administration (TSA) agents or anyone else.

In conjunction with Travel Sentry™, a system recognized and accepted by the TSA, CCL Security Products' new SearchAlert re-settable combination lock was designed with a security feature that allows TSA agents, using a secured access device, the ability to open the SearchAlert lock without destroying the lock.

Once TSA agents determine that a piece of luggage needs to be hand searched following an electronic screening, the TSA agent will use the SearchAlert secured access device to open the SearchAlert lock. This is the time when the Security Window will change color from Green to Red. The TSA agent will hand search the bag, place a TSA Notification of Baggage Inspection inside the bag, and relock the SearchAlert lock. However, the Security Window will remain the color red indicating the lock has been opened and relocked.

In order for the SearchAlert lock owner to reset the Security Window from Red to Green, the owner needs to open the lock using the combination, pull the shackle up and rotate it 180 degrees, and push the shackle down. This resets the Security Window back to Green.

If the Security Window is Red when the traveler collects luggage at the arrival port and there is no TSA Notification of Baggage Inspection or TSA Security Seal, the traveler should take the luggage to the airline's baggage claim office, report the situation, and then determine immediately if anything is missing, or if anything has been added to the luggage.

In the recent past, prior to the events surrounding 9-11, luggage locks were considered important luggage accessories to keep baggage handlers and others from becoming burglars. After 9-

11, with the new Homeland Security rules in effect, CCL Security Products introduced Prestoseal™ Security Seals to protect luggage against surreptitious entry while at the airport. Prestoseals let travelers know if someone opened their luggage when it was out of their sight.

Today, with the introduction of SearchAlert luggage locks, travelers can once again feel confident their personal property is protected, and at the same time feel confident they will not be unwilling participants in an illegal activity as a carrier of illicit goods. SearchAlert re-settable combination locks not only secure luggage, they act as sophisticated security seals as well.

Travelers will now know when their SearchAlert locks have been opened, and whether their bags have been searched by a TSA agent, or violated by an unknown person.

SearchAlert re-settable combination locks, Prestolock™ re-settable combination locks, and Prestoseal security seals are available for purchase from independent Locksmiths and Luggage Dealers across the United States. SearchAlert re-settable combination locks are strongly recommended for all checked luggage, while Prestolock re-settable combination locks and Prestoseal security seals are strongly recommended for all carry-on luggage.

###

#### Further Information!

Full compnay information: <u>www.cclsecurity.com</u>
CCL Security Products

301 West Hintz Road Wheeling, Illinois 60090

Tel: 800-733-8588 Fax: 847-537-1881

Thomas Melkus, Managing Director: tmelkus@cclsecurity.com Bill Walsh, National Sales Manager: wwalsh@cclsecurity.com

Lyle Elliott, Product Manager: lelliot@cclsecurity.com

#### **Editors Please Note:**

No charge samples for testing are available upon written, faxed or email request.

Be sure to include full name, name of organization, street address or P.O. Address, City, State and Zip Code.





### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Nora Alonso (401) 247-3421 nora alonso@samsonite.com

# Portside<sup>™</sup>- Samsonite<sup>™</sup>'s New Lightweight Hardside

ZipTight<sup>™</sup> Zipper Closure and Travel Sentry Lock Deliver Peace of Mind

Denver, CO, November 2003- Samsonite launches Portside, the latest lightweight and secure hardside upright.

## **ZipTight Means Light**

Portside features durable ABS plastic shells combined with an innovative ZipTight zipper closure system. The zipper closure keeps contents secure without the weight of a traditional frame closure. ZipTight means more comfortable travel without compromising durability and protection. Unlike traditional hardside cases that feature traditional frames with mounted lock systems, Portside is designed to be lighter and to meet current airline check-in size regulations, delivering a more comfortable travel experience overall.

#### Portside also features:

- o Durable ABS Hardside Case for maximum protection
- Smooth rolling in-line skate wheels for quiet mobility
- Push-button, locking handle for easy pulling
- Fully lined interior with cross straps to help secure contents
- o Divider panel with Wetpak<sup>™</sup> compartment

# Travel Sentry <sup>™</sup> Certified lock

In response to recent Transportation Security Administration (TSA) requests to not lock luggage at check-in, Travel Sentry has introduced a new locking system that allows travelers to return to locking their cases. Featured for the first time in the Samsonite Portside in early 2004, the new *Travel Sentry Certified* lock has special codes that are available to the TSA.

Utilizing these special codes, TSA screeners can identify, inspect and re-lock cases.

Each Travel Sentry Certified lock carries a special identification mark that alerts the TSA that the

lock can be opened.

- Each lock has a special code used by the TSA.
- Every TSA screening location is able to use these codes to open the lock and then re-lock after inspection.

Plans for additional rollout of the new *Travel Sentry Certified* lock on other Samsonite collections are planned for 2004.

Consumers can find Portside with ZipTight zipper closure and the new *Travel Sentry Certified* lock at Altman's Luggage, The Luggage Source, and Hides in Shape in New York City, N. Y.

#### **About Samsonite**

Samsonite has a 93-year tradition of elegant innovations, integrating clever design and interior space in travel equipment that has earned it a reputation as the global industry leader. Samsonite markets products including hard-sided and soft-sided cases, carry-ons, garment bags, casual bags, backpacks, business cases and accessories. Samsonite Corporation's principal offices are in Denver, Colorado, with U.S. Marketing and Sales operations in Warren, Rhode Island. Consumers can find Samsonite branded products in leading travel and luggage retail and department stores. For more information, visit <a href="https://www.samsonite.com">www.samsonite.com</a> or call 1-800-262-8282.

###